



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Simon H. Corston-Oliver et al.

Serial No.: 09/336,200

Filed : June 18, 1999

For : SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING THE PERFORMANCE OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL-TYPE TASKS BY IDENTIFYING THE RELATIONS OF CONSTITUENTS

Docket No.: M61.12-0099

Group Art Unit: 2771

Examiner: 2175

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Technology Center 2100

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS

25th DAY OF January 2001

PATENT ATTORNEY

Prior to the first Official Action, it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be made.

IN THE CLAIMS

63. The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining a set of relations comprises:

obtaining case information based on the usefulness of a constituent having that case; and

obtaining grammatical relation information based on a usefulness of a constituent having that grammatical relation.

64. The method of claim 63 wherein determining the relationship comprises:

determining the usefulness of the identified constituents

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